

REMARKS

In the subject Office Action, the Examiner issued a restriction requirement requesting election of either Group I (claims 1-20), Group II (claims 21-27), Group III (claims 28-47), Group IV (claim 48), Group V (claim 49), or Group VI (claim 50).

A. Election of claims

Applicant hereby elects what has been characterized by the Examiner as Group III in the subject Office Action. As best understood, Applicant believes claims 28-47 read on Group III. This election is made without traverse. Applicant reserves the right to pursue non-elected claims in one or more continuing applications.

B. Conclusion

Claims 1-50 are pending; claims 1-27 and 48-50 have been withdrawn. Claims 28, 29, 31, 43, 44, and 46 have been amended for clarification without narrowing the scope of the claims. This response involves no new matter. In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 28-47 are in condition for allowance, and such is earnestly requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 03-3483.

Respectfully submitted,

/court b. allen/
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Date: November 30, 2007

Electronic submission
USPTO EFS Web
November 30, 2007